Maritime Zone of India with a view to the protection of maritime and other national interest in such zones and the matters connected therewith under the provisions of Coast Guard Act, 1978. While there is a distinct role of Coast Guard in maritime affairs, there is a synergy between the Indian Navy and the Indian Coast Guard. Coast Guard has its own organisation and force and no need has been felt to take personnel from other Para-Military Forces on deputation. Coast Guard is a disciplined Armed Force of the Union and there are clear guidelines for its personnel to conduct themselves in different scenario including dealing with fishermen.

Review on involvement of middleman in defence deals

2061. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to review the system of involving middlemen in the defence deal;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP) 2006 and Defence Procurement Manual (DPM 2006) under implementation with effect from 1st September 2006, provide for direct dealing with original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) or Authorised Vendors or Government sponsored Export Agencies (applicable in case of countries where domestic laws do not permit direct export by OEMs). Further, the procedures *inter-alia* incorporate provisions for penalties being imposed if any seller engages any individual or firm, whether Indian or foreign whatsoever, to intercede, facilitate or in any way recommend to the Government of India or any of its functionaries, whether officially or unofficially, to the award of the Contract to the Seller.

Joint exercises with different countries

2062. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of countries with which India has conducted joint defence exercises in the last two years; and

(b) how India has benefited from these exercises?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) The names of countries with which India has conducted joint defence exercises in the last two years are USA, France, UK, Oman, Russia, Singapore, Thailand, China, Maldives and Mongolia.

(b) These exercises have helped in enhancing interoperability with defence forces of friendly foreign countries and in increasing military to military cooperation.

Troops deployed in UN peace keeping force

2063. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the countries where Indian troops are at present deployed as part of the UN peace keeping force;